AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4. (cancelled)

5. (new) An article which is able to be associated with a spring mattress which is deformable, wherein the spring mattress includes a spring core including corner springs, and wherein the article comprises a corner piece which is able to be attached to a corner spring, the corner piece comprising:

a generally tubular body, the length of which is generally equal to the thickness of the spring core, having lines of symmetry, and including a slot along one of the lines of symmetry, forming an open end, and at least one notch, at the open end, able to be attached to the corner spring, so as to reduce the deformability of the mattress at the location of the corner piece.

6. (new) An article as in claim 5, wherein the generally tubular body is generally cylindrical in shape.

7. (new) An article as in claim 5, wherein the generally tubular body is comprised of polyethelene.

8. (new) An article as in claim 5, wherein the notch includes a vertex, and the corner piece has an oblique cut at the notch vertex.

9. (new) An article as in claim 5, further having cut-outs under the oblique cut, which enable flexion of the generally tubular body.

10. (new) A method of forming an article which is able to be associated with a spring mattress which is deformable, wherein the spring mattress includes a spring core including corner springs, and wherein the article comprises a corner piece which is able to be attached to a corner spring, the corner piece comprising a generally tubular body, the length of which is generally equal to the thickness of the spring core, having lines of symmetry, and including a slot along one of the lines of symmetry, forming an open end, and at least one notch, able to be attached to the corner spring, so as to reduce the deformability of the mattress at the location of the corner piece, wherein the method comprises:

forming the generally tubular body which is resilient;

forming the slot along the one of the lines of symmetry so as to form the open end;

forming the notch at the open end so as to flatten the generally tubular body; and

enabling the flattened generally tubular body to resiliently return from the flattened form thereof to the generally tubular form thereof.

11. (new) A method as in claim 10, wherein forming the generally tubular body comprises extruding thereof.